

Date: March 10, 2016
To: Planning Commission
From: Fred Evander, Senior Long Range Planner
RE: DRAFT SHORELINE RESTORATION PLAN FOR SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM UPDATE
Attachments: Draft Shoreline Restoration Plan (83 Pages)

The purpose of this staff report is to introduce a draft of the Shoreline Restoration Plan for the Lewis County Shoreline Master Program.

BACKGROUND

As part of the Shoreline Master Program Update, Lewis County is required to produce four separate documents: a Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report, the Shoreline Master Program regulatory document, a Shoreline Restoration Plan, and a Cumulative Impacts Analysis. One of those documents, the Shoreline Master Program Restoration Plan, is attached to this report.

The Shoreline Restoration Plan is a required document that may be used to promote voluntary restoration of shoreline ecological functions. The standards for restoration plans are articulated within the Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

According to WAC 173-26-201(2)(f):

Master programs shall include goals, policies and actions for restoration of impaired shoreline ecological functions. These master program provisions should be designed to achieve overall improvements in shoreline ecological functions over time, when compared to the status upon adoption of the master program....

...Master program restoration plans shall consider and address the following subjects:

- i. Identify degraded areas, impaired ecological functions, and sites with potential for ecological restoration;*
- ii. Establish overall goals and priorities for restoration of degraded areas and impaired ecological functions;*
- iii. Identify existing and ongoing projects and programs that are currently being implemented, or are reasonably assured of being implemented (based on an evaluation of funding likely in the foreseeable future), which are designed to contribute to local restoration goals;*
- iv. Identify additional projects and programs needed to achieve local restoration goals, and implementation strategies including identifying prospective funding sources for those projects and programs;*

DRAFT SHORELINE RESTORATION PLAN

- v. *Identify timelines and benchmarks for implementing restoration projects and programs and achieving local restoration goals;*
- vi. *Provide for mechanisms or strategies to ensure that restoration projects and programs will be implemented according to plans and to appropriately review the effectiveness of the projects and programs in meeting the overall restoration goals.*

Staff believes that the draft as written addresses each of these items, and helps to move the County closer toward completion of the Shoreline Master Program.¹

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission consider the document, and identify any changes that may be necessary. Additional discussion about the draft will occur at the meeting of April 12, 2016.

¹ Please note: given the sheer number of planned or ongoing restoration projects in Lewis County, the document is not intended to capture all restoration activities.